REMARKS

All the claims submitted for examination in this application have been rejected on substantive grounds. Applicants submit a Terminal Disclaimer which overcomes the sole substantive ground of rejection imposed in the outstanding Official Action.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 11, 12 and 17-27, all the claims currently in this application, have been rejected on substantive grounds. Specifically, all of these claims stand rejected, under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, as being unpatentable over Claims 1 and 2 of U.S. Patent 5,538,984.

The Official Action indicates that this ground of rejection can be overcome by the filing of a Terminal Disclaimer, disclaiming the term of any patent issuing on the present application that extends beyond the termination date of the applied '984 patent.

Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, executed by an attorney of record in the present application. As indicated in the outstanding Official Action, a Terminal Disclaimer, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.321(c), overcomes this ground of rejection. Insofar as this is the sole ground of rejection imposed in the present application, the tendering of a Terminal Disclaimer places the claims of the present application in condition for allowance.

The above remarks and enclosed Terminal Disclaimer establish the patentable nature of all the claims currently in this application. Notice of Allowance and passage to issue of

these claims, Claims 1, 2, 9, 11, 12 and 17-27, is therefore respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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